

'SAUCERS'

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MR. SHINICHI TAKEDA of Fujisawa City (nr. Enoshima Beach), Japan, said he snapped this photograph of an unusual elongated object at 11:26 a.m. on Aug. 20, 1957. According to Mr. Takeda, the glowing, silver-colored UFO was viewed for about two minutes, and when directly overhead, it made a 90° left-turn and accelerated to twice its previous angular velocity before disappearing into clouds. The photographer, whose attention was reportedly directed to the "craft" by his sister, Kyoko, was quoted by the Flying Saucer Research Group in Japan as stating: "It was not an airplane of any type and was unlike anything I have seen before." (Photograph is courtesy of the Flying Saucer Research Group in Japan.) See page 18 for a dramatic enlargement of the photo.



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THE GREAT SAUCER "FLAP" OF 1957

By MAX B. MILLER

ON SUNDAY, NOV. 3, 1957, the writer listened to "Monitor News" over NBC Radio. A brief account was related, after the latest news about Sputnik II, of reports of an egg-shaped object which had reportedly landed on a Texas highway. "Flying saucers" or UFO's were not mentioned.

At 3 p.m. the same day I mentioned this account to Bud Pecaro, a close friend residing in Greenwich, Conn., who called me at that hour. He said he would look for something about it in the New York newspapers. "I only hope they print the story," I responded.

But I needn't have worried.

For that report out of Levelland, Texas, initiated the greatest UFO flap since the summer of 1952.

THIS ISSUE OF SAUCERS will be primarily devoted to this flap. Of course, it will partial "re-hash" to many. But we think that only a fraction of the total reports could have been intercepted by any one individual. And new and dramatic reports from early November are still being received. So please bear with us as we try to concisely yet thoroughly relate these important happenings.

WHEN DID THE FLAP START? We don't know. But after it began, a Methodist minister (whose name we feel advisable not to publish at this time) wrote us that on "Sept. 1 a man from Sioux City and his wife were driving one mile from...Le Mars /Iowa/ and saw a flash of light which stopped their motor and cut off their car lights. Sometime later he was able to start the car again." Fearing ridicule, the couple did not report their experience.

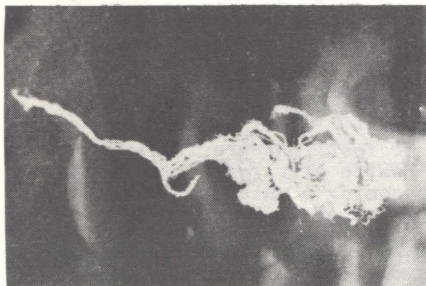
This same minister also recounted an incident experienced by his own family:

"On Wednesday evening, Sept. 4, at 6:50 p.m., which was just before sunset, my wife and my small son were with me on a family picnic at Sioux City when all of a sudden our little son cried out, "Mommy! What's that?"—pointing to a disc-like light coming out of the west. The sun was almost ready to set, but this illuminated object was about the size of a full moon and about that color, but was readily observable in the off-yellow-blue sunset sky. It came up rapidly, and before it got directly overhead, it seemed to have a cross-like shadow on its bottom side, then hovered for about one minute overhead, after which it rose rapidly straight up as a large group of jet fighters took off from the nearby air base. All three of us watched it, and it was observed for at least five minutes. That night when we drove back home the 25 mile distance, we noticed an unusually brilliant display of northern lights. Any guess as to magnetic displays such as this and the appearance of UFO's?"

E. R. LEE AND HIS FATHER, both of Minneapolis, Minnesota, spotted a noiseless, white, featureless and flap-appearing UFO with sharply defined edges as it sped ENE almost directly overhead at 5:43 CST on October 1st. The UFO "was following

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a curving or circular course and disappeared NNE, having moved through an angle of about 80° ," related Mr. Lee. "The sky was absolutely cloudless, with a half-moon (more pale than the UFO) off to the south. The temperature was 72° F., barometer about 31, wind about 7 mph, according to the Weather Bureau, which was called immediately, with wind direction from the WNW." Velocity was compared to a transport plane flying 200 mph at 2,000 feet. Sighting lasted approximately 20 to 25 seconds. Winzen Research, Inc., apparently had no balloons in the air at the time. "I was unable to find out if the University of Minnesota had launched one, but these are always launched from the north of us," the observer noted. "I have observed balloons several times and, in my opinion, the speed and curving path of the UFO precludes this possibility even if the wind direction was different at its altitude." (Report on file.)



10X Enlargement of "Angel's Hair."

AS A "TADPOLE-SHAPED" object passed above Ichinoseki City, Iwate Prefecture, Northeastern Japan, at about 11:45 a.m. on Oct. 4 (the day, coincidentally, that the USSR launched the world's first artificial satellite), so-called "angel's hair" began falling in most parts of the city (from 10 to 12 a.m.). Spiderweb-like threads started dropping on the grounds of the Sakuramachi Middle-School at 10 a.m., according to Yukichi Kumagai, a teacher, who took the accompanying photograph. The material was analyzed and found to be organic, dissoluble in hydrochloric acid and inflammable. It was supposedly determined not to have been spider webs or fibres from examination by Roentgen photographs. (UFO News Report, Overseas Edition, No. B-11, organ of the Flying Saucer Research Group in Japan.)

ON OCTOBER 8TH, "SPUTNIK I" was scheduled to be about 40° above the Eastern Los Angeles horizon at 9:14 p.m. (PST). Realizing that the full moon was in that general direction at that time, the writer theorized that there was a slight possibility that the satellite or its carrier rocket just might transit the lunar surface. Acting upon the questionable hypothesis, he observed the full moon from 9:10 to 9:30 p.m. with a tripod-secured 8x50 (M-17) elbow telescope using a neutral density filter to cut down the brilliant glare. Notes were recorded about as follows: "9:15 observed undefined but relatively large body cross face of moon in 1/10th to 1/5th second (probably plane or bird)...At 9:26 apparent spherical (from impression) object estimated approximately $1/30$ th angular diameter of moon (0.015°) crossed SE portion of moon in about $\frac{1}{2}$ -second. Directions of both bodies: NW to SE. At 9:28 two bodies (somewhat wedge- or delta-shaped by impression), one slightly smaller than the other, traversed moon in rapid succession traveling to NE..."

The latter objects were presumed birds or aircraft, which are not too uncommon, though the observer had not previously witnessed such transit any astronomical body. It is unlikely that the second (or spherical) object was in fact Sputnik I, for it is

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SAUCER FLAP OF 1957

believed the object would have been too small to be resolved by an 8x50 telescope, unless in extremely close proximity to the earth. The writer observed the moon for the same period the following evening, but observed nothing. In closing, it must be emphasized that the apparent diameters and velocities are only approximations. A report of this observation was immediately dispatched to Project Moonwatch headquarters at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass. The report was acknowledged on Nov. 6, the response indicating it would be evaluated with other satellite reports. (On file.)

AGAIN TO JAPAN, WEATHER Observer Yoshiaki Kaneko, of the Kumamoto City, Kyushu, Weather Station, watched an object suddenly descend and then hover in the SE at 2:38 p.m., Oct. 25. Then it crashed to the earth with a white smoking trail. No wreckage nor trace of anything burning was found. "It looked like a metallic object about 100 feet in diameter? leaving a vapor trail," Mr. Kaneko told the Asahi Shinbun, Japan's largest circulated newspaper. (UFO News Report, No. B-11.)

"Cobweb-like strands up to 50 feet long are falling from the sky around this eastern New Mexico city of Portales, festooning telephone lines and becoming a nuisance in broom corn and cotton harvesting," reported AP on October 25. An unidentified engineer at Sandia Base in Albuquerque volunteered the theory that the strands were formed by dust particles charged with static electricity.

ON THE SAME DATE in a wire dispatch from Frankfurt, Germany, the Associated Press quoted a German scientist, Dr. Heinrich Faust, as saying it could be "assumed without hesitation that there is life on one thousand trillion earthlike planets." But only a fraction of these, about one trillion estimated Dr. Faust, are inhabited by "intelligent beings."

In a report via Radio Moscow on Oct. 27, Dr. Alexei Pokrovsky, director of the laboratory preparing animals for space flight, was quoted as stating: "We're working to bring near the time when human travel into space will be a reality, when people in space ships will be able to establish contact with other, distant, hitherto unknown worlds." (AP.)

A UFO that "doused its lights and sped away when spotted over one of Britain's atomic bomber bases" was reported by United Press in a London dispatch about Oct. 28th. A night fighter spotted the object, according to Arthur Brenard, aviation writer for the London Sunday Express, and it was tracked by ground radar crews.

Nov. 2nd, two mystery objects hovered over Johannesburg, South Africa, unresolved by radar or Sabre Jets. "The Sabres climbed to their ceiling of 45,000 feet, but were still far below the objects, one of which appeared to be disc-shaped and to reflect the sun's rays from silver surfaces," related the AAP. "Intelligence men assume that the objects were some form of physical phenomena." (Perth N. Z. Daily News, 11/2.)

THE 10,000 RESIDENTS OF LEVELLAND, West Texas—an oil and cotton town about 30 miles due west of the now-famous Lubbock—retired peacefully Saturday night, November 2nd. But not so tranquil were Pedro Saucedo, a farm hand, and Joe Salaz, who were driving toward a farm at Pettit. Saucedo suddenly spotted an object rise from a field and come "toward us." Then his truck's motor died and the headlights dimmed out—

And Pedro Saucedo jumped out of his truck.

"THE THING PASSED DIRECTLY over my truck with a great sound and a rush of wind," he later said. "It sounded like thunder and my truck rocked from the blast. I felt a lot of heat."

The enigmatic craft, said Saucedo, was torpedo-shaped. He was the only witness to mention the noise and heat.

Some other observers to the Levelland phenomena were: Jim Wheeler, of Whitharrel; Jose Alvarez, Levelland; Frank Williams, Kermit; James D. Long, Waco; and Ronald Martin. Messrs. Wheeler, Alvarez, Williams and Long, traveling in separate cars, all reported their motors and headlights as going out as they approached an object, which they described as egg-shaped and about 200 feet long.

Ronald Martin claimed his engine re-started after the UFO had vertically ascended. "One thing I can't understand," said Martin, "is how it could stop that combustion engine and then start it again when it took off."

All witnesses agreed as to the color (bluish-green), size and tremendous speeds of the objects, although there remained no physical nor visible evidence of the encounters.

Sheriff Weir Clem of Levelland told Mike Grehl, a reporter for the Memphis Commercial Appeal, that he definitely knew "there was something. I know it from not having any controversy between those who saw it. Their stories fit to a 'T'."

Sheriff Clem, his deputy Pat McCullough, and other law enforcement officers also viewed the later heralded "Whatnik." Clem said a beam of light projected onto the highway in front of him and his deputy early Sunday morning. He described the bright beam as being about six feet high, 50 yards wide and from 350 to 400 yards long. He thought they were about 300 to 400 yards from the object. (The Levelland Daily Sun News, 11/5.)

And still additional reports came in from Saturday night: Amarillo Airport CAA Control Tower operators Calvin Harris and Sandy McKean observed a "blue gaseous object which moved swiftly and left an amber trail southeast of the city." And a "streak of light like a fireball" was reported moving toward the SW at 8 p.m. by Odis Echols, owner of radio station KCLV, Clovis, New Mexico. (UP.)

Disc-shaped UFO's, about three feet in diameter, were observed from a distance of about 100 yards by "numerous persons" in Barahona, Dominican Republic. The UFO's remained stationary for about two minutes before rapidly but silently disappearing in the eastern sky. (UP, 11/4.)

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AT ABOUT 3:30 SUNDAY MORNING, an MP jeep patrol at the site of the first atomic bomb detonation on the northern edge of the White Sands Proving Ground observed a "very bright light" in the sky, which descended to about 50 yards above the old A-bomb bunkers before it went out. The Patrol consisted of Cpl. Glenn H. Toy and a Pfc. Wilbanks. Shortly after the object blinked out, according to Cpl. Toy, it "became real bright, like the sun, then fell in an angle to the ground and went out."

Toy estimated the egg-shaped object to be from 75 to 100 yards in diameter, and about three miles distant from their jeep. No physical evidence was found to confirm the report, although another MP patrol consisting of SP-3 Forest R. Oakes and an SP-3 Barlow saw a "large bright light" hanging 50 feet above the old bunkers at 8 p.m. the same day. SP-3 Oakes said the UFO rose into the sky at a 45° angle, started blinking on and off, and finally disappeared.

And according to 1st Lt. Miles F. Penney, the MP's Commanding Officer, none of the men had previously heard of similar reports from Texas and elsewhere. (AP, 11/4.)

ALSO ON THIS SUNDAY EVENING, Mr. and Mrs. Famous Hairston, their infant son and Mrs. Moten Turner (Mrs. Hairston's mother) were driving along State Route 647 near Martinsville, Va., when they encountered a somewhat disconcerting experience. Related Mrs. Hairston (a teacher at the Albert Harris High School): "It was about 6:50 in the evening, and fairly dark. Suddenly, about five minutes distant from Oak Level, we noticed this bright red glow. The road ahead of us glowed, as did the trees and surrounding countryside. Even the inside of the car glowed red. My husband stopped the car, thinking there might be a fire or some emergency red flasher signal ahead. There wasn't. The glow, alternating in intensity of brightness and color, flashed on and off at about three-second intervals. When the car moved, so did the light. It seemed as though we were moving in the focal center of a red spotlight. Shortly before we reached Oak Level and Highway 220, the light disappeared. It just went off and didn't come back. There was no noise." An unidentified Cincinnati radio station supposedly reported that traffic in that area was being followed by a mysterious amber glow. (Martinsville Bulletin, 11/4.)

Meanwhile, in Tucson, Ariz., Mrs. Mary Cahill reported sighting a "large, inverted ice cream cone, glowing with fire" as she drove toward Tucson at 7 p.m. The object rose from the horizon heading in a westerly direction, said Mrs. Cahill, then it briefly hung motionless, after which it moved off in an erratic manner and disappeared in a few seconds.

At 9:30 p.m. additional reports came in. Fireman Wencie E. Higuera spotted "a ball" that "had a little tail something like a rocket" in the general direction of Davis-Monthan AFB. "It was high and there wasn't any noise," Higuera recounted. He said it did not look like a meteor. "It disappeared in the northwest in about 10 seconds." Another fireman, Dominick Cammarano, described the UFO as "like a white ball with a streak behind it." Another observer was Mrs. David L. Patrick, wife of the University of Arizona vice-president. She reported the object seemed to be moving too slowly for a meteor and looked as if it had a pointed nose and a glowing, slender body—"sort of an arrow."

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SAUCER FLAP OF 1957

"It was very high and traveled at a steady speed," Mrs. Patrick continued. "When it disappeared, it just went out of sight in the manner that a plane fades in the distance. It didn't seem to burn out." (Tucson Citizen, 11/4; Tucson Arizona Star, 11/5.)

THEN CAME MONDAY, NOV. 4—and something strange to Chicago.

Patrolmen Cliff Schau and Joe Lukashek and Fireman Robert Volz were all riding in an Elmwood Park squad car at 3:12 a.m., when they spotted an object "shaped like an egg.../with/ the color of sunset" hovering over the Elmwood Park Cemetery. (To Patrolman Lukashek, "It seemed to be landing and folding into itself like a parachute." And when they directed a spotlight on the object, "it puffed up into a ball again and moved away at about 65 miles an hour.") Patrolman Schau said it was "sort of bright orange, with maybe a little red. It was very bright. I switched off our lights and started following it. When we got close, I turned the lights back on and then it shot up about 200 feet into the air. We followed at about 65 mph, but could not catch it. It moved at a very high rate of speed...all of us saw the thing, so there must be something to it. We can't all be seeing things."

The patrolmen lost sight of the UFO at 3:22 near the Elmwood Park and Franklin Park boundary line. "Our motor didn't stall," Schau added, "but our lights flickered a couple of times. I shined the big spotlight on the object and the light almost went out." (Chicago Sun-Times, 11/5; Fate, Feb. '58.)

JAMES W. STOKES, 45, IS A MISSILE Engineer in good standing at the Air Force Missile Development Center, Holloman AFB, New Mexico. Engineer Stokes had spent about 20 years of his life in the Navy. He seemed to know what he was talking about.

Driving along Highway 54, headed for El Paso, Stokes was about eight miles the other side of Orogrande when he encountered some trouble by his radio starting to fade out. "Then my automobile /a 1957 Mercury/ began slowing down and came to a stop," the engineer later told Terry Clark of KALG, Alamogordo. "Ahead of me, several cars were stopped on the side of the road and people were pointing up at the sky. I immediately got out my notebook and observed this object." ("The Day All Roads Led to Alamogordo" by Terry Clark, Writer's Digest, Dec./57.)

In an AP story, Clark quoted James Stokes as follows: "I saw a brilliant colored egg-shaped object making a shallow dive across the sky to the northeast. Then it turned and made a pass at the highway and crossed it not more than two miles ahead. Then it moved toward White Sands...As it passed...I could feel a kind of heat, like radiation from a giant sun lamp. /Stokes later had the appearance of having been sun burned./ But there was no sound. It had no visible portholes and there was no vapor trail. When I got back into my car and checked the engine, I found it intact but the battery was steaming. But the engine started with no difficulty."

Stokes said the craft seemed to have depth, "was oval shaped." Its surface appeared as "glowing mother of pearl." Velocity was estimated to have been at least Mach 2, and size was "about 500
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feet long."

Although Stokes claimed about 10 other autos were also stopped, no additional witnesses could be found. One man (variously listed as a Mr. Duncan of El Paso and an Allan D. Baker of Las Cruces) was reported to have photographed the phenomenon.

BUT TERRY CLARK FOUND THAT a somewhat similar incident had occurred at 9:30 the following morning as Mr. and Mrs. Trent Lindsay (owners of a finance company) and their son Byron, 22, a graduate of Texas University, were driving on Hwy. 54 near the vicinity of where Stokes had reported his experience. When about 20 miles from Alamogordo, the car's speedometer suddenly shot from 60 to 110 mph. Then the Lindsays looked up and saw a cylindrical-shaped object pass "right over the car. But it was up high," said Mr. Lindsay. The speedometer "seemed to lean in the direction the object was traveling," he reported. "Then, when the object disappeared over the Organ Mountains, the speedometer returned to normal and stayed that way."

Mr. Lindsay said the UFO didn't travel perfectly horizontal but appeared to follow the curvature of the earth. They watched the object for about three minutes altogether, almost stopping their car, but the speedometer still registered 110 mph. And they all agreed that the UFO had a tremendous velocity and was without "lines or angles like a conventional aircraft." The car was a 1954 Mercury, the speedometer of which works on a magnetic (rather than mechanical) principle with the magnet housed in aluminum. Eddy currents move the needle. (Writer's Digest, Dec. 1957.)

ON TUESDAY, NOV. 5, THE AIR FORCE alerted its Air Defense Command radar network to search for UFO's. This followed a report that the Coast Guard Cutter "Sebago" tracked a UFO from 5:10 to 5:37 a.m. (CST) both visually (by four crewmen) and via radar over the Gulf of Mexico. Ensign Wayne D. Shockley described the object as a "bright point of light with no definite shape, resembling the planet Venus." Cmdr. Clarence H. Waring said the UFO was tracked on radar traveling from 240 to 900 mph, changing directions frequently and, for a short time, remaining stationary. (AP.)

NEAR MONROE, LA., FOUR PERSONS saw a hovering "gaseous" object rise straight up into the air and vanish from sight . . . James Jeffries, Sr., a former Navy pilot, and his son reported sighting a brilliant red, oval object which sounded like thunder at 5:45 p.m. at Knoxville, Tenn. . . . A flaming object, three inches long, two inches wide and less than an inch thick, made of rubber and equipped with three lenses, fell into the yard of an engineering school in Alexandria, Egypt. Russian scientists from Cairo reportedly "identified it as part of a short-range missile." (UP, 11/5.)

In Mount Airy, No. Car., Buford King, operator of Veterans Texaco Service, said that he and Nathan Simmons, of Modern Motors, were talking when an object three inches square and weighing over a pound hit the station's paved entrance with great force. No cars were in sight and no airplane engines could be heard, according to King. (Mount Airy News, 11/8.)

EDWARD L. KRAMER, AN ENGINEER with the Bell Aircraft Corp. in Buffalo, N. Y., said the reports of UFO's having been sighted the previous several days "do not fit in with any of our knowledge concerning mechanics or electronics." He stated his belief that the objects were non-terrestrial in origin. (AP, 11/5.)

FIRST HEARD ON NOV. 3 but not publicized for several days were mysterious "beep" signals intercepted by the FCC, RCA and radio "hams" at a frequency of 14,286 megacycles, which, strangely, is near the center of a much-used amateur radio band. These signals could not have emanated from Sputniks I or II, though they appeared to originate in space, have been received at both the North and South Polar regions. FCC retracted earlier report that data was "classified." Signal eventually faded out. (UP; AP; New York Journal-American, 11/5.)

An interesting UFO report was related to the Civilian Saucer Intelligence of New York by Jacques N. Jacobsen, Jr. On Nov. 6, he, William Munday, William Totten and Robert Dawson were hunting at Lake Baskatong, about 100 miles north of Ottawa. The hunters had portable AM and short-wave radios with them (as there was no electricity). Munday and Dawson are electronic workers and "hams."

At 9 p.m., Totten pointed out a "huge brilliantly-illuminated sphere" hovering above the summit of a hill two or three miles distant to the others. It was to the SSE and was estimated to be about 0.065° to 0.075° in angular diameter. The sky was overcast. Conical beams of light projecting from the UFO lit up both the clouds and tops of trees on the hill. 8x25 binoculars resolved no detail. But the strangest part of the experience is the report that all reception stopped on both radios—except for a rapidly modulated and very strong single tone which was picked up at one frequency (thought by Munday to have been approximating 2.5 or 25 MC.). At 9:15 the light disappeared into clouds. (CSI News Letter No. 10.)

In Plattsburg, N. Y., two unidentified but supposedly reputable citizens reported phenomena similar to the reports out of Texas two days before. Story was broadcast by local radio station. (Tape Recorded UFO Information Service.)

BUT BY NOW QUESTIONABLE STORIES began hitting the wires. Reinhold Schmidt in Kearney, Nebr., told of meeting some people speaking "high German" inside an egg-shaped craft. In 1938 Schmidt had been convicted for embezzlement. And following his recent story he was apparently committed to a local institution. Nevertheless, both his employer and his wife expressed confidence in his character and reliability.

McMinnville, Oregon, Farmer Sam Kelchner, his wife and their five children said they watched an "orange oblong object" with a lighter colored top as it hovered over their home and barn and illuminated the ground of his farm for nearly half an hour at 6:33 p.m. They live 3½ miles north of Amity, Oregon. (McMinnville Daily News-Register, The /Salem/ Oregon Statesman, 11/6.)

"THERE HAS BEEN NO EVIDENCE to support credence of flying saucers," an Air Force spokesman at Colorado Springs finally (and flatly) declared. (INS, 11/6.) The mopping-up operation had begun.

Then there was the Los Angeles "flap."

At 3:50 p.m., Major Louis F. Baker, Commanding Officer of the Air Force Weather Station at the Long Beach Municipal Airport, and assistants Airmen Joseph Abramavage and William Nieland watched six "saucer-shaped flying objects" for about 1½ minutes at an estimated altitude of 7,000 feet at the base of a cloud bank.

"They were circular and shiny like spun aluminum," said Major Baker, "changing course instantaneously without loss of speed—like planes in a dogfight." Ten military personnel waiting to board an airplane at the time reportedly also viewed the UFO's, which were estimated to have been larger than C-46 aircraft.

AT CORONA DEL MAR, CALIF., Mrs. Charles Weitzel observed what looked like "an orange jack-o'-lantern" as it hovered just above the SSE horizon, over the ocean, at 6:04 p.m. The object disappeared in the few seconds it took her to summon her husband to the window. Mr. Weitzel is a Marine Corps flier.

Personnel at the Los Alamitos Naval Air Station reported UFO's continuously from 6:05 to 7:25 p.m. "It was not a star and it was not an airplane," declared Lt. Richard Spencer, a pilot, though he admitted that it appeared "starlike," glowed several colors and alternately dimmed and brightened. Hospitalman Charles Krieger and Airport Tower Operator Louis D. Mitchell also viewed the phenomenon, which they said moved almost imperceptibly from north to NW. (Los Angeles Times, 11/6.)

Lt. Spencer was scheduled to appear on "You Asked For It" (ABC-TV) the following Sunday evening. His appearance, however, was canceled suddenly on Friday, presumably by an official directive.

MR. AND MRS. A. A. BURNAND, JR., belatedly reported sighting a light flashing at two second intervals, above ground level but lower than the mountains behind it, on the Borrego Springs desert at 6 p.m., Nov. 4. "It was about twice the apparent size of the moon," Burnand recounted. "When it flashed, the rays shot out in all directions. It made you think of an explosion."

"It was like a huge beacon," stated Mrs. Burnand. "It's light was intense." The couple agreed they heard no sound during the eight observed flashes. Weather Bureau officials could not account for the phenomenon. (San Diego Union, L. A. Times, 11/6.)

IN KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE, 12-year-old Everett Clark (reported to be "not given to telling stories") said that a "long and round spaceship" landed in a cow pasture across the road from his home (in which he was alone) at 6:30 a.m. Two men and two women got out, according to young Clark, and they talked "like German soldiers in war movies." One of the men reportedly grabbed the (Cont.)

boy's dog, Frisky, which backed away. Then he picked up another dog, which growled and appeared about to bite, so the man allegedly put it down.

The craft supposedly took off "without a sound. It climbed rather sharply, like a helicopter," Everett stated. When the group re-entered the ship, "it looked as though they were walking through glass."

Reporter Carson Brewer and Photographer Bill Dye, both of the Knoxville News-Sentinel, the sheriff and school authorities accompanied young Clark to the pasture in which the mystery craft reputedly landed.

"I SAW SOMETHING WHICH nearly made me jump," Reporter Brewer said later. "About 10 feet from where Everett was standing I saw a peculiar imprint in the thick grass. Everett did not point it out. Dye and I saw it first. It was in the shape of a fat cigar or slender egg. I stepped off the length of the thing as about 24 feet. It probably was about five feet wide at the thickest portion." (INS, UP.)

Wednesday, Nov. 6, dawned with one Dr. Donald H. Menzel exercising his vocal muscles, and "explaining everything"—"Except for the unexplained" (Hollywood Citizen-News). His opinions that UFO's did not exist as physical objects were echoed for several days in the nation's press.

BUT NOT EVERYONE TOOK the situation so lightly. In Los Angeles, Air Force PIO Colonel Dean Hess said: "I'm not going to be satisfied with one of these routine inquiries. I am sure the American people would be receptive to information as to whether these objects are of terrestrial or celestial origin."

Gradually Colonel Hess's outlook changed to skepticism, then to some allusion that the public shouldn't be so preoccupied with such nonsense. The reason effecting this change was only too obvious—

"There is no physical or material evidence, not even a minute fragment, that a so-called flying saucer was ever found," proclaimed the Air Force, November 6, 1957.

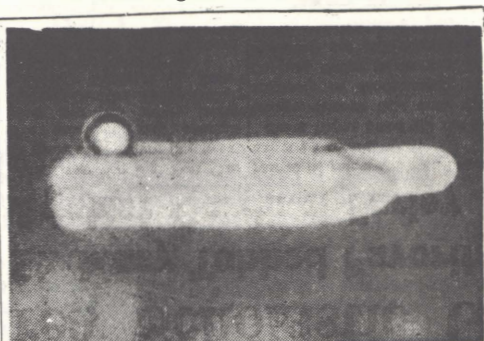
"Oh, what a tangled web we weave, When first we practise to deceive!" —Sir Walter Scott, Marmion.

AT DUNNOTAR, TRANSVAAL, South Africa, a large cylindrical object—the third UFO sighted in five days—was tracked by searchlights of the local South African Air Force Station on the night of Nov. 5. The object withdrew behind clouds when the searchlight beam struck it, observers said. Air Force officials refused to comment. (Specific source—a New Zealand newspaper carrying a dispatch from Johannesburg datelined Nov. 6—is unknown.)

EDWIN G. LEADFORD, 19, of Anaheim, Calif., said he was driving west on Katella Ave. on his way home. Approaching Disneyland Park at about 12:10 on Wednesday morning, Nov. 6, he "sighted what appeared to be a small blimp at first. The object disappeared for a few seconds," recounted young Leadford. "I drove to the top of the Santa Ana Freeway bridge and stopped, got out of the car, and set up my Graphic-Century camera...The

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object was much bigger now. It was above the horizon at about 65 degrees. It appeared to be a weird gaseous mass" with a "vivid pinkish red light —just like a railroad flare." Leadford snapped photo at the right with a 1/10th second exposure and a lens aperture of f/4.5 on Tri-X film.



Unidentified Flying Object—This object was photographed by Edwin Leadford, who sighted it from his car around midnight, November 6, at Anaheim, Calif. Leadford described it as cigar-shaped and said it flickered with a reddish cast light.

Ed Ettinger, public relations director at Disneyland, said there were no balloons or other objects over the park at any time during that part of the week. And of the time in question, Bert Klein, supervisor of the Garden Grove GOC, said that "we had almost continuous sightings of a strange light in about the same spot near Disneyland last night. It was a large, orange colored ball, and was reported continuously by Garden Grove observers." (Garden Grove Daily News, 11/7; Los Angeles Mirror-News, 11/8.)

Several weeks following his reported experience, Edwin Leadford told the writer that he turned the negative and all the prints he had of his photograph over to men, at their request, who claimed to be representing Air Force Intelligence.

IN URBANA, ILL., TWO "EXPERIENCED state troopers"—Calvin Showers, of Danville, and John Matulis, Westville—followed a "brilliant flying object" for about 15 miles. The troopers were unable to notify headquarters during the chase because of the inexplicable failure of their short-wave car radio which, they state, was in good working order both before and after the object was sighted. (INS, 11/6.)

AT BATHURST, AUSTRALIA, misidentifications of the planet Venus (which a "council officer" partially described as seeming "to have two decks") sent two RAAF Sabre Jets from Williamstown into the air hunting the phenomenon. The light, viewed in full daylight, was finally identified by the crew of a Qantas Super Constellation. (Sydney Morning Herald, 11/7.)

Others reports came in from southeastern Michigan, Colorado and Wyoming. (UP, 11/7.)

MEANWHILE, ANOTHER enigmatic "object" popped into headlines—Sputnik II's "little brother." On the morning of Nov. 6th, Japanese astronomers watched a tiny object precede the Russian satellite by two minutes. Chicago Astronomer William B. Doe and members of his Argonne National Laboratory Astronomy Club all watched an object an estimated three minutes ahead of the circling sphere. And UCLA Astronomer George Abell said it preceded Sputnik II by two minutes at 5:24 a.m. Viewing through binoculars, he said it appeared much fainter than the satellite. (Cont.)

Theories ranged from the existence of a nose cone to a separation of the satellite's canine-carrying compartment. Both of the postulates have been rather well discounted by now. The phenomenon, apparently, remains a mystery. (INS, 11/6; L. A. Times, 11/7.)

A quarter-pound, "white hot" object crashed into a school playground on the outskirts of London. It was sent to Scotland Yard for examination. Later dispatch retracted "white hot" and substituted "white quartz." (INS, 11/6.)

At 7:30 p.m., six Air Policemen at Edwards AFB, Calif., reported "an orange ball low on the horizon." This was apparently later identified as the star Arcturus, said by "authoritative sources at Edwards" to have been bigger and brighter than usual due to atmospheric conditions. And a reported sighting at 10:30 from Lancaster may have been effected by jet bombers dropping photoflash bombs five miles south of Edwards. (Los Angeles Examiner, Times, Hollywood Citizen-News, 11/7.)

BY NOW THE TIDE HAD begun to turn. With Dr. Menzel and the Air Force jumping in with both feet, the public belched sighs of relief while attention lightly returned to the thoughts of tranquilizers. (The L. A. Examiner opined that part of the Edwards sighting could be explained by "the nation's amazing post-Sputnik willingness to believe almost anything that isn't anchored down can flit from planet to planet." And the following day (11/8), the newspaper editorialized: "...We do suggest that as the novelty of the Sputniks wears off—as that of lightning did with our cavemen ancestors—the number of unidentified flying objects will automatically decrease and disappear.")

Naturally, newspapers from coast-to-coast fully exploited the Menzel hypothesis, ignoring the plain and obvious facts the same papers had reported only a few days earlier.

BUT THE NORTH AMERICAN AIR Defense Command at Colorado Springs, Colo., was forced to admit it had received 46 UFO reports during the night of Nov. 5 alone. However, according to PIO Capt. Andy Beasley, only three of these "deserved further study." And one of the three was the fantastic claim by Reinhold Schmidt of an encounter with saucer occupants speaking "high German." (AP, 11/6.)

Edward J. Ruppelt, former head of Project Blue Book for the Air Force, helped to clarify the issue in the Los Angeles area. "During my tenure with Project Blue Book we had reports of radiation and induction fields in connection with UFO's," he was quoted as saying. "However, the information was sketchy and we never were able to pin it down." But the latest reports "by seemingly skilled observers," said he, "should add a whole new dimension to the UFO investigation." (Hollywood Citizen-News, 11/7.)

"There has been a lot of talk about mirages," Ruppelt said of the inversion-refraction-theory. "This is one thing we proved that saucers were not. We went to Dr. Joseph Kaplan... and others, and we spent a lot of money to determine if mirages were the answer. The only positive answer we got was that they were NOT mirages." (Los Angeles Mirror-News.)

AND EVEN MIRROR-NEWS COLUMNIST Paul Coates ("Confidential File") became "skeptical of his own skepticism." Wrote Coates: "I'm at a point today where I'm not quite sure how I'd take it if a little green man with sharp-tipped ears walked into my office and announced that he had just dropped in from outer space." (The Mirror-News, 11/8.)

But syndicated columnist Frederick C. Othman had other opinions. On Nov. 8, Othman observed: "These flying saucers now lurking in the skies will grow thicker in the next couple of days and then they will go away. That's the way mass imagination works."

The San Fernando (Calif.) Valley Times looked at the situation objectively. In an Editorial (11/7) titled "Explanation Of Sky Objects Or Illusions Much Needed," the newspaper noted: "Too many people, under too many circumstances are seeing too many things, in too many places, for the resulting situation to be left to take its own course. It is not enough for offices of the armed forces, for other responsible government agencies, ones manned by scientists and specialists of all kinds, to dismiss newsmen's inquiries with the mere statement that investigations are under way." And Valley Times Columnist George Todt is to be highly commended for the far-sighted and incisive approach to the problem he exhibited in his columns following the flap.

NEXT THE AIR FORCE HELPED to quash the non-existent "hysteria" by declared it had resolved all but 1.9 per cent of (recent) UFO reports. ("5,700 Saucers 'Dish-Counted' by U. S."—Hollywood Citizen-News, 11/7.) But few people realized that this did not refer to all of the UFO reports it had investigated.

On Thursday, Nov. 7, the Gulfport, Mississippi, City Council considered proposals to (1) make "Martians" check their weapons with police and (2) prohibit the landing of mysterious objects within city limits. (UP, 11/7.)

On the East Coast, RCA Communications picked up an unidentified radio signal on 108 MC., the frequency assigned to the Vanguard satellite program. It was not known whether the signals emanated on earth or from space. (Hollywood Citizen-News, 11/7.)

TRUCK DRIVER MALVIN STEVENS, 48, of Dyersburg, Tenn.—said to be "a reliable family man"—claims a large, egg-shaped object (at first thought to be a large balloon) blocked a road northwest of Meridian, Miss. He described the object as being "as long as the highway is wide, with single-blade propellers at each end and a third propeller on the top."

"...three queer-looking people"—a woman and two men—"about 4½ feet high with jet black hair and white, pasty faces" supposedly emerged from the craft, one of whom "shook hands with me" by placing both of his outstretched palms over one of Stevens' hands. "They were friendly and wanted to talk to me, but they could only make chattering sounds." The group re-entered the craft about two minutes later ("although it seemed like an eternity") and "disappeared, going straight up."

(Cont.)

STEVENS' FELLOW EMPLOYEES at the Cook Truck Line said the driver was "white as a sheet" upon his arrival. And the mileage register on his truck showed that he did stop for about two minutes at the approximate point of the alleged encounter.

No witnesses were reported, although a 9-year-old school boy reportedly told a Meridian store owner that he observed a "balloon-like thing on the highway" while on his way to school that morning. (UP, 11/7.)

WHILE 'POSSUM HUNTING at 10:30 p.m., a Jonesville, Va., farmer, Buford Seabolt, claims he stumbled upon two men in a "long grey object with windows." One man was related to have been standing beside the object with the other one inside "looking out one of the windows." After an airplane flew over them, one of the men reportedly said, "There's that airplane we've been following." And upon spying the farmer, one of the pair shouted: "Come over here—we want to talk to you."

Then Seabolt is alleged to have run, without looking back, to a small grocery store a half-mile away, where he phoned Deputy Sheriff Porter Green. Green said he could find no supporting evidence, but "had no reason to doubt Seabolt's story." (UP, 11/7.)

AND THERE WERE ADDITIONAL reports from Johannesburg. On Nov. 3, 50 residents of Coalbrook, Freestate, watched a UFO for two hours. Constructional Engineer Don Roden observed an object through a telescopic-theodolite while it changed in shape from cylindrical to spherical, and later ascended out of sight. All witnesses agreed the object moved against the wind. And a UFO the apparent size of the moon appeared briefly from behind a cloud, flared up, and withdrew again behind the cloud over Boksburg, a suburb of Johannesburg. (New Zealand Press Assn., 11/8.)

IN CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA, four astronomers of the Commonwealth Observatory at Mount Stromlo had just completed observing the orbits of Sputniks I and II when, at 3:03 a.m., Nov 8., they spotted another something—bright and pink. It moved leisurely across the sky in a westerly direction in two to eight minutes (depending upon which report one believes). Dr. A. Przybylski said the object had a bright pink luminosity, brighter than anything else in the sky ("equalling that of Venus, though its color was different") excluding the moon.

Rough computations (unspecified) indicated the object could not have been higher than 1,600 miles above the earth. It appeared just above the southern horizon and traveled too slowly for it to have been a meteor. No planes were in that part of the sky during the period of observation.

"What it was remains an open question," stated Dr. A. R. Hogg, Chief Assistant Astronomer of the Observatory. "It is the first time that the observatory has sighted what might be called an unidentified flying object." And one newspaper quoted the astronomer as saying: "It is possible that the object, if it is anything, could have passed into outer space or dived into the drink." (N.Z.P.A., Sydney Morning Herald, 11/9; The Sun Herald, 11/10.)

(Cont.)

OF THIS SIGHTING, Andrew P. Tomas, vice-president of the UFO Investigation Centre in Australia, wrote us (11/24) that Britain's Astronomer Royal Prof. R. Woolley, a disbeliever in both "flying saucers" and space travel, was formerly the director of the Mt. Stromlo Observatory. And Mr. Tomas notes that "four of his former associates who saw a 'pink thing' could not all be wrong—[and] if he says that, they will resign en bloc."

And the world settled back to relative normalcy (whatever that is). UFO's were no longer "news."

"PENTAGON OFFICIALS GENERALLY attributed the sightings to a bad case of 'Sputnik jitters,'" reported Aviation Week on November 11. "Others were not so sure..."

On Nov. 10, Dr. Juan Olsacher, a Professor at the College of Natural Sciences, Salta, Argentina, said that a "celestial body" which fell in Parana (capital of Rios Province) on Aug. 21 was man-made. It contained 95% aluminum, with smaller amounts of manganese and silicon and traces of iron, copper and barium. This alloy is similar to those used in aviation. Dr. Olsacher referred to a disintegrating object photographed over Marseille on Aug. 19 as possibly having some relation to the fragment. (UP, 11/10.)

Nov. 10, Hammond, Ind., Policemen Charles Moore, Charles Mauder and Steve Betustak chased "an elongated basked-shaped" object with a red front light and white tail light at 7 p.m. While joining the chase, Capt. Dennis Becky reported that a loud beeping sound caused interference on his police radio for "about five blocks." The Police Department reported it had received many calls of mysterious "beeps" being received on radios, and of television sets blacking out. Officer Betustak reported hearing "a series of beeps like the squeaking of a dry bearing." And residents in the Jackson-Cherry Street area heard a "thumping sound." (The Hammond Times, 11/11.)

NOV. 11, LUEBECK, WEST GERMANY, police reported that an unidentified object exploded in the air above this Baltic Sea port. A metal tube with a number of small holes was found. (Reuters, 11/12.)

And in Martinsville, Ind., Mrs. Louise Wood reported sighting a "large butterfly-like object with wings six to 10 feet wide flying over my barn." (UP, 11/12.)

Numerous UFO's (many triangular-shaped) were reported over Hazelton and McAdoo, Pa., on four consecutive days, from Nov. 12. A Quakake farmer, who encountered an object "about 35 feet long" hovering and "spinning around and around" told his experience in a terror-stricken voice to the local newspaper, which said he "broke into tears several times and was almost incoherent." Other inhabitants of the region reported fading television sets, helicopter-like sounds overhead (when nothing was there) and other phenomena. (The Hazelton Plain Speaker, 11/13-14-15-16.)

A SWEDISH ARMY CAPTAIN at Kotteldala, near Goteborg on the Swedish west coast, observed a UFO on Nov. 25. A spokesman for Sweden's defense headquarters stated: "The captain described

(Cont.)

SAUCER FLAP OF 1957

the object as a flattened sphere circling moonwards. Its sides were somewhat elongated and there was a flickering glow as from burning exhaust gases from one side. The captain reported he watched the object for 20 minutes. We are taking this report seriously since it came from a competent observer...We know that it was no airplane, nor any meteorological balloon, and the Stockholm Observatory has told us it was no meteor." (AP, 11/25.)

FROM VARIOUS AREAS NEAR Barstow, California, "ten reputable witnesses" reported sighting a brilliant object on the morning of Nov. 26. Two unidentified California State Agricultural inspectors at the Yermo Inspection Station, 16 miles NE of Barstow, saw an object resembling a silver dollar pick up the first rays of the rising sun before the sun was even above the horizon. The UFO was thought to be in the direction of Newberry, 20 miles SE of the station. When the shift changed at 7 a.m., Chief Inspector Norman Smith and his day crew watched the UFO until the sun was high enough to hide the gleaming object in its glare. (Los Angeles Times, 11/27.)

Thousands of Southern Californians saw a brilliant ball of fire shoot across the sky shortly after 7 p.m., Dec. 1st. Deputy Sheriff Hugh Alcott of La Puente was one of those who witnessed the "bluish light, exceptionally bright, which burned for at least 5½ seconds. It was not a shooting star." Los Altos Moonwatcher Roy N. Griffith said he sighted the rocket of Sputnik I at 7:09. He said it was brighter than Venus and all other sky objects excepting the moon. (Los Angeles Examiner, 12/1; AP, 11/30)

SOMEWHERE NEAR HAMBURG, GERMANY, a silvery object fell in a swampy region. Thought to be the carrier rocket of the first Sputnik. NBC news cameramen were reportedly rushing to the scene—and that's the last we heard of the incident. (Numerous reports on radio, particularly "Monitor News;" virtually nothing in the press.)

A huge fireball reportedly fell Dec. 1st 100 miles SE of Fairbanks, Alaska. The Geophysical Institute received reports for three hours. (AP, 12/1.) And an unidentified scientist reputedly observed a "green-burning" meteorite strike the ground in Arizona. (L. A. Examiner, 12/8.)

ON DEC. 2, A HOLE 48 FEET long, three to four feet wide and waist deep developed with a "loud roaring racket" on the farm of William Blackburn, near Vina, Alabama. Three smaller holes about six to eight feet in diameter and two to three feet deep were found near the larger one. A barbed-wire fence near the holes had been snapped in several places, and a double wire of one strand appeared to have been fused together—as if by heat. The day was, however, clear, apparently precluding the possibility of lightning. "I've never seen anything like it," observed Red Bay Deputy Sheriff Aubrey Patterson. (AP, 12/8.)

Grand Forks, No. Dak., Dec. 17. Fragments of an object which fell from the sky on a haystack, setting it afire, exhibited magnesium oxides never found in meteorites, according to Geologist Dr. Nicholas Kohanowski. (UP.)

SAUCER FLAP OF 1957

IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, the FCC admitted that a mysterious low-keyed "beep" sound is being received on short-wave radios across the nation. Frequency was not identified. A spokesman for the FCC Monitoring Station in Portland told the Seattle Post-Intelligencer: "We don't know what it is. We'd sure like to know. We do know that it is being heard all over the country." (INS, 12/19.)

And so concludes what may be the most important flap in Ufology. For never before has such extensive evidence been presented of electrical induction fields, possible landings, and observations of UFO's by qualified astronomers.

Among the many persons who so kindly sent us clippings on this flap, the writer wishes to thank in particular the following persons: Paul R. Trent, Al Sargis, Bud Pecaro, Harold H. Fulton, John M. Short, Mrs. I. E. Epperson, John B. Jones and George D. Fawcett.

ENLARGEMENT OF JAPANESE MYSTERY OBJECT PHOTOGRAPH (SEE FRONT COVER)



Great Minds....
Discuss Ideas,
Average Minds....
Discuss Events,
Small Minds....
Discuss People.
— Anon.

MYSTERY FOIL FOUND IN JAPAN

By YUSUKE J. MATSUMURA

MARS WAS IN CLOSE PROXIMITY to the earth on September 7, 1956, when at least 30 people in Choshi City, Chiba, Japan, spotted a flying saucer at about 7:30 p.m. The object was in view for approximately three seconds. There was no sound as it travelled from NE to SW. Then, a few minutes later, many mysterious foils of metal fell in the city and nearby areas. The following morning, a lot of metal foil was found in the garden of the Choshi Middle-School. The tinfoil-like material was about four to five centimeters in length, one mm. wide and 10 microns thick. They were all the same size.

Mr. Masatoshi Takita, a dentist who collected this material and sent some of it to the Japan Flying Saucer Research Association, Tokyo. The organization sent Mr. Fumiyoshi Ishizu to Choshi City for the investigation and asked for analysis by The Industry Promotion Assn., Tokyo.



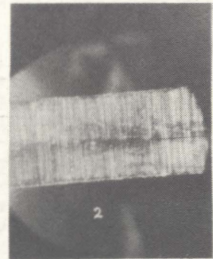
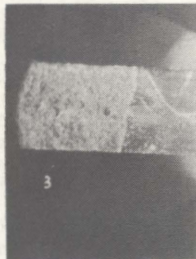
ACCORDING TO THE SPECTRUM analysis, the foil contained aluminum, lead, silicon, iron and copper. A chemical analysis indicated 12.9 per cent of lead on membranous vinyl (micro-photo No. 3). Aluminum foil containing lead has yet to be produced in Japan, claimed the Japan Light Metal Company and the Tokai Metal Co. And Meteorological Agency officials said the "objects are not yet used for meteorological missions by the Americans or Japanese."

MR. KINICHI ARAI, HEAD OF the J.F.S.A., asked the United States Far East Air Forces Headquarters, through Air Attache Major Lamour at the American Embassy in Japan, about the analysis of the mysterious foil. A few months later, Mr. Arai was telephoned an unofficial statement that the metal "was American." To queries as to what it was and used for, the response was, "No comment." Why?

It was thought that radar tests or anti-aircraft training at an Army base at Toyoumi (about 25 miles south of Choshi City) may have had occasion to use metal strips. But Major Lamour said there was "no firing training /at or near Toyoumi/ on that day, September 7th. Our last training was on Sept. 9."

JAPANESE NEWSPAPERS and weekly magazines reported this mysterious case, but have not as yet received any official explanation.

(Photos are courtesy of the Flying Saucer Research Group in Japan.)



SHORT SHOTS & NEWS NOTES

Inside Saucer Post...3-0 Blue is the title of the interesting new book by Leonard H. Stringfield, Director of Civilian Research, Interplanetary Flying Objects. The publication is illustrated, paper-bound and contains 94 pages. Those wishing to order should send \$2.50 per copy to CRIFO, 7017 Britton Ave., Cincinnati 27, Ohio.

The University of Detroit has undertaken a study to determine whether or not radiation is associated with gravity, with the eventual idea of nullifying the latter. The Varsity News, a student newspaper, claims the Air Force has shown "eager support of the project." (Astronautics, Dec/57.)

Dr. Bernard F. Burke, a radio-astronomer with the Carnegie Institute of Washington, recently determined that the radio waves emanating from the planet Jupiter "probably lies below the cloud level, and might well be associated with the surface of the planet itself." It was previously thought that the source was within the planet's turbulent atmospheric cloud belt. (AP.)

SPECIAL BOOK SALE!

(THIS SPECIAL SALE OF THE following books has been initiated to eliminate a surplus stock. When this surplus is exhausted, the sale will be terminated.)

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<u>Behind the Flying Saucers</u> , Scully.....	2.95	- 2.80
<u>Other Tongues, Other Flesh</u> , Williamson.....	4.00	- no change
<u>Flying Saucers on the Attack</u> , Wilkins.....	3.50	- 2.75
(one soiled copy)....	3.50	- 2.20
<u>Flying Saucers Uncensored</u> , Wilkins.....	3.50	- 2.75

* NOTE: This profusely illustrated publication covers virtually every facet of UFO research. It is therefore, an excellent book with which one may enlighten friends on the topic. We have a special "package" offer whereby five of the Library Editions (\$1.00 each) may be purchased for \$4.50, or six of the 75¢ copies for \$4.00. The \$1 books are preferable for loaning, the 75¢ copies are excellent for gifts.

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